

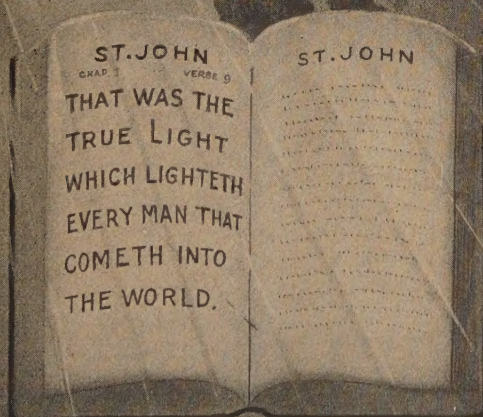
Vol. 73, No. 1

JANUARY, 1928

One Dollar a Year

# BIBLE SOCIETY RECORD

## Christ the Light of the World



V. 73  
1928

CECIL G. MOORE



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REV. G. H. SPENCER, D.D., Corr. Sec., 41 Bromfield St., Boston.



# BIBLE SOCIETY RECORD

VOLUME 73

JANUARY, 1928

NUMBER 1

## An Appeal by the Advisory Council

*The Advisory Council consists of representatives appointed by the evangelical Christian bodies in the United States whose general organizations endorse the work of the American Bible Society and request or require their churches to contribute to the work of the Society. Those whose names are signed below were present at the meeting of the Council with the Budget Committee of the American Bible Society on November 30, 1927. The impression made on them by the revelation of the work and need and providential possibilities of Bible distribution resulted in the spontaneous proposal, and unanimous adoption, of this appeal.*

### Whereas

The Bible is the basis of all Christian work; and

### Whereas

We believe that all the Churches should make Official Appropriations to the American Bible Society for the wider distribution of the Bible, hailing this opportunity with readiness, knowing that such support is really the strongest aid to their own endeavors in home and foreign lands; and

### Whereas

The budget of the American Bible Society for 1928, unanimously approved by the Advisory Council, does not begin to cover the opportunity open to the Society, but we cannot suggest that the Society should so enlarge its work as to cumber itself with debt; and

### Whereas

We believe that the time has come to set before those who constitute a chief source of income the providential possibilities before the Society, and its present financial status; therefore be it

### Resolved,

That the Board of Managers of the American Bible Society be asked to appeal to the Churches of Christ in America for largely increased gifts toward the wider distribution of the Scriptures;

That this appeal be sent out in the name of the Advisory Council in annual session;

That a copy be sent to every representative of the Churches in this Council, and to all the church press.

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MR. F. H. WARNER.....	Congregational Church
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REV. J. A. AASGAARD, D.D.....	Norwegian Lutheran Church of America
PROF. H. C. ALLEMAN, D.D.....	United Lutheran Church in America
REV. WALLACE MACMULLEN, S.T.D.....	Methodist Episcopal Church
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REV. J. A. MACLEAN.....	Presbyterian Church in U. S.
REV. D. W. FOOKS.....	Cumberland Presbyterian Church
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REV. S. C. ENCK, D.D.....	United Brethren in Christ



# The Bible Society Record

THE action here quoted was another of the suggestions by the Advisory Council which emanated entirely from its own membership. A member, noticing the appropriation for the RECORD, made a comment gratifying to the editors, about the value of this monthly to him. Another followed with the remark that, among the many magazines which reached him, the RECORD was one of a few that he always read. Others followed with kindred remarks. One raised the question whether a wider distribution of the RECORD were possible. Thus it came to pass that the action recorded was proposed and unanimously carried.

The Board of Managers, after considering the proposal, approved it. It is really in harmony with the action of the Board, taken a few years ago, entitling any annual contributor of a dollar or more to receive the RECORD. Hitherto this has applied to contributors who sent their gifts directly to the Society. The suggestion of the Advisory Council, made effective by the Board, now looks to applying this rule to gifts of a dollar or more made by individuals through their church channels, either when collections are taken in the churches, or when contributions are made through the budget envelope system, in which the American Bible Society shares. In these cases, as intimated, individuals who desire to receive the RECORD should send their full postal address through their pastors, who in turn are requested to indicate that a dollar or more has been given by the individual concerned, for the work of the American Bible Society.

While the Board of Managers recognizes that this proposal will enlarge the edition and therefore the cost of the RECORD, it believes that the plan will accomplish the purpose of the magazine and justify itself.

## Comments from Others

That the members of the Advisory Council, in commending the RECORD, spoke the minds and experiences of many others may be illustrated by quoting from a few of the many

letters which cheeringly flow into the offices of the Society in regard to the RECORD. Traveling from the Atlantic to the Pacific, the excerpts are chosen to show that these appreciations come from all sections of the country.

One, writing from New London, Connecticut, who became a contributor only this year, sends a special gift and says, "I love the information given in the BIBLE SOCIETY RECORD and want to help a little. Wish it was more." Another from Burdett, New York, writes, "Kindly allow me to congratulate you on the very interesting and instructive form of your July issue. If you have twelve extra copies of this issue, kindly send them to me for distribution where they will count most."

From Iona, New Jersey, comes the word, "I have been reading recently what wonderful things the Bible Society has been doing for the poor afflicted blind people, and I am sending you — for them, unless you think best to use it otherwise. After I read the RECORD I give it to others to read."

A minister writes from Williamsport, Pa., "The RECORD is valuable to me, not only because I have been for many years the standing committee chairman in our presbytery, but because of my deep interest in the work of the American Bible Society. I wish all of the ministers in our presbytery could receive it." A lifelong interest is revealed by a lady, who writes: "I have from childhood been an interested reader of the BIBLE SOCIETY RECORD, and am always glad when I have something I can send to help on the Bible work."

The October RECORD drew this comment from Orlando, Florida, "I was greatly touched by the last issue of the BIBLE SOCIETY RECORD. A most marvelous account of God's Letter-carrier." A correspondent from Chicago tells of over seventy-five years acquaintance with the RECORD in this excerpt: "I think so much of the BIBLE SOCIETY RECORD. We have been taking it since 1850, I think. My father took it, so his family could be informed about the work of the Bible Society." Passing to the West, from Red Cloud, Nebraska, is the mes-

THE ADVISORY COUNCIL  
and the  
BIBLE SOCIETY RECORD

The Advisory Council would suggest to the Board of Managers that it take measures to let the pastors of contributing churches know that any individual donor who contributes a dollar or more annually to the Society may receive a copy of the BIBLE SOCIETY RECORD, pastors explaining that individual written application for the RECORD must be made by such donors. It is open to anyone, of course, to secure the RECORD by subscribing for it in the same way that one subscribes for any other magazine.



sage, "I think some of the stories in your BIBLE SOCIETY RECORD are wonderful and certainly very interesting to me"; and another, "The RECORD is readable and interesting—full of strong inducements to use wealth for the glory of God. It is also instructive."

From the Pacific coast have come many and encouraging messages. One writes from San José, California, "To me the most interesting feature of the RECORD is the telling of the marvelous results which come to those who simply read the Bible without any explanation by man"; and another from San Diego says, "I read every word of the RECORD with interest, and my heart longs always to be able to do more for my Master."

One of the most interesting incidents in this connection is a letter from Sawtelle, California. A lady wrote, asking that the RECORD be discontinued. In exactly ten days another message came: "I find I cannot do without your BIBLE SOCIETY RECORD. It certainly encourages me to give all I possess to the work you are doing. When I wrote you to stop it, I was discouraged, because those I gave it to did not see the importance of the work you are doing as I see it. But please to send it to me."

And perhaps most encouraging of all is a letter from the Atlantic coast, because it reveals a use made of the RECORD which we would fain see practised elsewhere. The registrar of the Boston Bible Training School reports in early December: "We have a small class studying reading and expression. One afternoon the teacher selected clippings from recent issues of your magazine, so that the whole class period was spent in reading of your work. It seemed like a missionary meeting, and fresh interest was aroused as the different accounts of your work were read. We shall know better how to pray for the work."

"Much as I should like to keep my copies of the magazine, I am sharing them with the school by putting them in the library. I open each copy as it comes, with interest, knowing I shall find each month new occasions for prayer and for praise."

DR. J. W. MAUCK, president emeritus of Hillsdale College, Michigan, has inaugurated a new use of annuities. Our Society is one of a number to which he has been accustomed to give at regular times. He has placed sums on an annuity basis with each, and turns back to the societies the excess of payments to him over the interest they would get on conservative investments. A check has been received from him on this basis. It may be a suggestion to others.

## Napoleon and Mary Jones

An editorial from *The Press*, of Paterson, N. J.

IMAGINE a statement something like this in the year 2027: "Of course I know about Mary Jones, but who was this fellow Napoleon?" A trifle far-fetched, we admit. But the exaggeration is defensible. Napoleon's light is growing feebler with the passing of the years. He was not only a dismal failure, for all his glory, but the man in recent times who tried to imitate him failed as signally. The Napoleon complex is about over. But the Mary Jones idea is gathering weight and momentum every year.

Mary Jones lived contemporaneously with Napoleon, even though you may never have heard of her. It is certain the great conqueror never heard of her, and it is likely she never heard of him; for she was only a child. She started out one day from her Welsh village and, barefoot, tramped across the hills, asking for a Bible. And that small incident started a movement which has not yet subsided—the Bible Society. And out of the Bible Society came new life for the Sunday school. And from the Sunday schools of the British Isles and the United States have gone millions of Mary Joneses and Johnny Joneses to build a world more real than any ever dreamed of by Napoleon.

THE Rt. Rev. Bishop Manning writes an introduction to a recent book, "The Word Abideth," from which we quote in part:

There has been recently much discussion about the Bible. The minds of many are confused by these controversies. Some are inclining toward a rigid literalism, which leaves no place for reason in the consideration of the sacred books. Others are being led to suppose that the authority of the Bible, and of the revelation which it brings to us, have been in some degree weakened by the results of what is known as the Higher Criticism. \* \* \*

We need have no fear that scholarly investigation will destroy or weaken the authority of this book.

The true test of the Bible lies in its reverent and faithful use, and in sincere effort to follow its teachings. Whoever reads the Bible in this spirit will find that it speaks to him with a moral power, a spiritual authority, a divine message, which his soul recognizes as from God himself. If the teachings of the Bible were followed, misery and selfishness and injustice would vanish from the earth. Wars would cease. Righteousness and brotherhood and peace would reign. The Kingdom of Heaven would come among us.

THE three-color Bible Sunday poster has been reproduced on a 7¼ by 10 inch sheet for use in homes, classrooms, exhibits, and various places where the larger one could not be used. They will be sent on request as long as the supply lasts. Please to enclose four cents to cover postage.



## The Advisory Council Meeting

THIS issue of the RECORD may seem to some almost an Advisory Council Number. Actions taken at the recent meeting of the Council were of such unusual import, that they wisely receive special emphasis. But apart from these actions, the fact is that the Advisory Council stands for so much, that an issue of the RECORD might well be devoted largely to it.

This Council is unique in the annals of the churches and of cooperation. The Officers and Managers of the Bible Society feel its value and possibilities very keenly. Nor do they consider its value to the Bible Society, great as it is, the main value and significance of the Council. That twenty-nine of the Protestant denominations in the United States, including all the larger denominations save only the Baptists, have united in appointing official representatives to sit on this council of advice to the American Bible Society, is a happy and significant fact in itself. This they do, and have been invited to do, not for the Society as such, but in recognition of the fundamental importance of the Bible in all their church work and to all their individual church members. The Bible Society is recognized simply as the channel of production and distribution of the Bible, and as such has this unique advisory council.

The Advisory Council carries added significance and weight from the personnel which constitutes it. The name of every member on the Council will be recognized by those of his own Communion as that of an outstanding leader in that Communion. And even more may be said. Ten are bishops and presidents; five others have held or are holding the position of moderator of their highest church court; and five others are holding the highest executive office in their Communions.

That men, carrying individually in their own churches such heavy and exacting responsibilities, are selected, and are willing, to render service on this Council is a silent but mighty testimony to the value placed on the Bible and the means of its production and circulation, both on the part of the bodies appointing, and on the part of the individuals appointed.

The meeting of the Advisory Council, held on November 30, bore eloquent and emphatic testimony, in several ways, to the recognition, on the part of its members, of the vital importance of the circulation of the Scriptures. Representatives of a few of the churches found it impracticable to attend because of conflicting duties. Twenty-four had written that they would be present, and twenty-four were present.

This, in itself, is an unusual experience; and be it remembered that they came not simply from New York and its environs, but from Massachusetts on the East to Minnesota on the West, and from Virginia and Tennessee on the South. Further, gathering at 10:30 in the morning, they remained in active session until 5:15 in the evening, with less than an hour for lunch.

The actions of the Council, reported in this number, show clearly that it did not enter simply into the matter of the annual budget, important as that is; but also took up and initiated, with lively sympathy and generous support, matters connected with the problems and policies of the Bible Society. The action advocating an appeal to the Churches, and the action looking to the wider circulation of the RECORD, are significant in themselves. But it adds much to their significance when it is realized that those who proposed, and unanimously adopted, these actions are, most if not all, responsible officers or members of denominational benevolent organizations which are being handicapped by a lack of funds. They know that the appeal for increased gifts for the Bible cause must go to the Christian public, which is the backbone of the support of their own denominational activities; but not a word of hesitancy was uttered on this ground. The actions were taken enthusiastically.

The meeting of the Council with the Budget Committee of the Society on November 30th, after devotional exercises participated in by Bishop J. Albert Johnson, D.D., of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, and the Rev. Arthur J. Brown, D.D., of the Presbyterian Church, U. S. A., was organized by the election of Dr. Brown as chairman. Under his courteous and skilful guidance, good progress was made in the morning session. A Committee of Findings, consisting of Dr. Paul de Schweinitz of the Moravian Church, Bishop Johnson, already mentioned, and Mr. F. H. Warner, former moderator of the Congregational Church, was appointed, which drew up the actions later adopted. Discussions were participated in by practically all the members present whose names appear attached to the appeal on the first page of this issue. In the afternoon, the Rev. Prof. H. C. Alleman, D.D., of the United Lutheran Church, presided. At this session, in the course of discussion and after some remarks by Rev. C. K. Meyers, general secretary of the Seventh-day Adventists, on motion of Bishop James H. Darlington, D.D.,



of the Protestant Episcopal Church, seconded by Bishop Collins Denny, D.D., of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, it was decided to issue the appeal already mentioned.

Members of the Board of Managers, who were present, and the officers of the Society

felt very deeply the splendid spirit of devotion to the Bible, and deep interest in the methods of increasing its distribution which permeated the remarks and prayers during these sessions of the Council. It was perhaps the most important and valuable of all seasons thus far held.

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## "The Monoplane New Testament"

FROM our Pacific Agency has come the accompanying picture and description of what is called "The Monoplane New Testament." Others may find a suggestion which will meet some local need, and so the story is told in the words of the Rev. A. Wesley Mell:

"I enclose a photo of a New Testament and Psalms stamped with monoplane in gold with lettering, which has met a popular demand as a gift book for aviators and youths inspired with flying ideals. At the time of Lindbergh's visit to the Pacific coast, we prepared several hundreds of these New Testaments and Psalms, and presented the first copy to Colonel Lindbergh (one gift among millions), sending it to him by air mail on his entrance into the Pacific Agency at Spokane, Washington.

"We have sold some two hundred of these books and have found the public interested; and Christian leaders, working especially among young men and boys, most enthusiastic. I will not here take the time to detail all the interesting incidents in connection with the Testaments. I will relate but one.

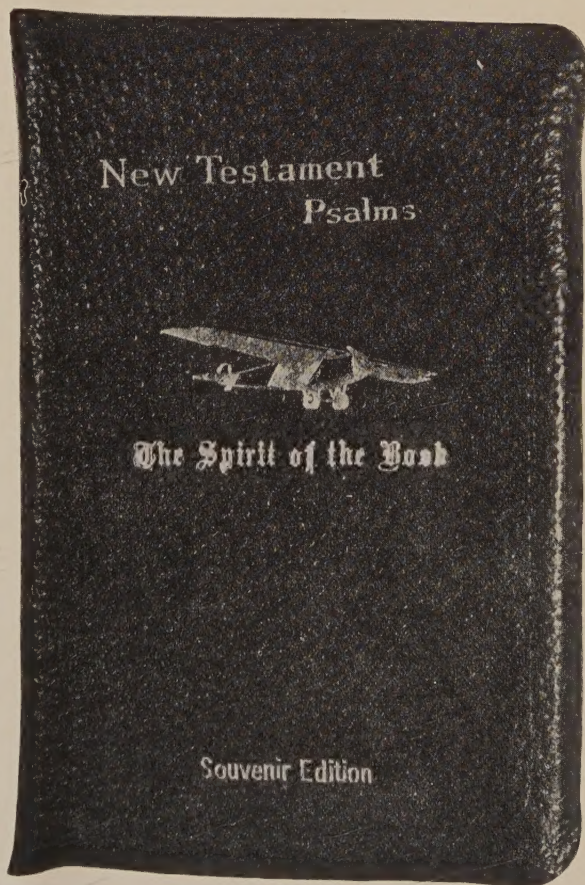
"The Government of Australia has given backing for a flight of four Australian aviators from the States on the Pacific coast to Australia.

"The United States Government has recognized this attempt, and arrangements have been made for these aviators to carry a letter from President Coolidge to the Premier of Australia, and, for the first time in history, to carry United States mail via air to Australia.

"As this flight was begun in the state of Washington, and will take off from San Francisco, we thought it fitting formally to present the distinguished aviators each with a copy of these monoplane New Testaments. They were most pleased to receive them, indeed very enthusiastically grateful and expressive of their pleasure to carry the Scriptures especially prepared for men who travel by air.

"By special arrangement with the postmaster of San Francisco, a copy was allowed sent in the United States mail to the secretary of the British and Foreign Bible Society for Australia, it being English territory. I wish you

could have seen the Postmaster when he saw this monoplane New Testament, how enthused he became and said, 'This ought to go. It must go! We will make an exception in this rule, allowing only one-half an ounce for each package, and allow this airplane Bible to go.'



THE MONOPLANE NEW TESTAMENT

"It was so ordered.

"Whatever the outcome of this United States to Australia flight, it will always be a comfort to us to think of these men gladly taking the Word of God with them."



Search the Scriptures, \* \* they are they which testify of me.



Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

*The budget is placed in the midst of this article with deliberate intention. The article was prepared, and is being used, in an entirely different connection, but for the same purpose. Thirty-five thousand copies, folded in leaflet form and carrying on the reverse, pictures which also answer the question in the title, have been sent out by the headquarters of the International Society of Christian Endeavor by its general secretary, E. P. Gates, with a note of special commendation from him, for use in connection with the Christian Endeavor Prayer Meeting topic of January 15, 1928—the question in the title. The article presents matter new and old, drawn chiefly from the records of the American Bible Society, in a fresh and forceful form. It is, in effect, such a clear argument for the work of the American Bible Society, that other comment on the budget, and the need for the money called for by the appropriations, is omitted.*

**T**HAT the reading of the Bible has made more difference in the world than the reading of any other book ever printed is a high claim indeed. But we believe it will stand through all time.

No other book has been in so many hands—over 600,000,000 copies of the Bible have been published in whole or in part.

No other book has been in so many lands—it has been published in over 835 languages and dialects. During the past decade some portion of the Bible has appeared in a new language at the rate of one every six weeks.

No other book has so greatly changed human life for good, with messages of forgiveness, faith, hope, truth, and divine love.

No other book has so permeated literature, music, and art.

No other book has so profoundly affected human governments. President Coolidge says:

The foundations of our society and of our Government rest so much on the teachings of the Bible, that it would be difficult to support them if faith in these teachings should cease to be practically universal in our country. \* \* \* It has been the source of inspiration and comfort to those who have had the privilege of coming in contact with it, and wherever it goes it raises the whole standard of human relationship.\*

### In the Individual

**A**N eminent jurist of New York has declared that "not one in a thousand of youthful criminals ever received Sunday-school or

religious training, and of 55,000 young criminals one in six had never heard of the Ten Commandments."

A Sacramento daily paper says:

"The training received by the average pupil in Sunday school pays better dividends and costs less than any training acquired elsewhere."

A representative of the American Bible Society left a copy of a Bible in a village store in eastern Ohio years ago. A small boy working in the store read the Book first through curiosity. He became a minister when grown and is now pastor of a large Methodist Episcopal church.

In a survey of two of the great state prisons in America, it was found that of 974 prisoners in one prison only one had studied the Bible. In the other prison, where there were 1,750 inmates, only six had studied the Bible.

### In Literature

**I**N nearly every instance the literature of modern European nations began with the translation of the Bible.

Six hundred and fifty-one Biblical references were found in the poetry of Whittier, according to a thesis by a university student.

John Bunyan, the tercentenary of whose birth is being celebrated this year, wrote "Pilgrim's Progress" with no knowledge of English other than that gleaned from God's Word.

In most Near East countries, the Bible has been used for centuries as the basic textbook. It is the standard book in language teaching.

\*From a statement prepared for the American Bible Society.



# The Budget for 1928

As adopted by the Board of Managers on December 1, 1927

The budget totaling \$1,345,426 is summarized as follows:

## 1. General Administration:

Including salaries of general officers: two General Secretaries, a Treasurer, an Associate Secretary and a Recording Secretary; Salaries and wages, office force including eight persons; travel, postage, telephone, telegraph and cables, supplies, office equipment, Bible Society Record, Annual Report, pamphlets, leaflets, library expenses, Advisory Council, contingent..... \$80,363

## 2. Treasurer's Office and Miscellaneous Accounts:

Including bookkeeper, cashier, etc.: Pensions, interest on loans, legacy expenses, annuity expenses, payment of costs over income; capital charges, real estate (not Bible House in New York); audits and special accounts, United States Trust Co. as Assistant Treasurer, collections of checks, etc... 23,289

## 3. Ways and Means:

Salaries and wages of staff, news releases, general advertising, Bible Sunday, pamphlets, lantern slides, exhibits and posters; annuity promotion, following up donors, new prospects, contingent, etc. .... 68,378

## 4. General Distribution:

Life Members, Auxiliary Bible Societies, the Blind, miscellaneous home expenses, emergencies, and home grants in books or funds; miscellaneous foreign, furlough and traveling expenses of Foreign Agency Secretaries, pensions, grants in funds or books to fields not included in Agencies—countries in Europe, Asia, Africa, Micronesia, etc., and cooperative movements; translation and revision, plates of new versions not charged in cost of books, contingent ..... 80,570

## 5. Publication:

Scriptures printed for the Society's work in the United States and Latin America chiefly; paper and presswork, binding, general manufacturing expenses, superintendence, care and repair of plates, Scriptures purchased, depository staff and charges ..... 410,000

## 6. Home Agency Secretaries:

Secretaries' salaries, ten Agencies: Colored People, Eastern, Atlantic, National Capital, South Atlantic, Central, Northwestern, Southwestern, Western, and Pacific ..... 31,400

## 7. Home Agencies:

Expenses connected with the distribution of Scriptures by colporteurs, correspondents, etc. .... 122,570  
(The appropriation for the Home Agencies, \$122,570, does not cover the cost of the Scriptures distributed, which is met out of the item under 5. Publication, \$410,000.)

## 8. Foreign Agency Secretaries:

Secretaries' salaries, twelve Agencies: West Indies, Mexico, Caribbean, Upper Andes, La Plata, Brazil, Levant, Arabic Levant, Philippines, Siam, China, and Japan ..... 42,000

## 9. Foreign Agencies, covering Latin America, the Near and Far East as named above:

Expenditures for the manufacture and purchase of Scriptures and the expenses connected with their distribution by colporteurs, correspondents, etc. 486,676

TOTAL ..... \$1,345,426



"In the Philippines," says a United Press despatch, "one-third of the total number of Bibles are in English, and for this reason the Bible is one of the most powerful factors in the spread of English to all parts of the islands. In thousands of instances the Bible is the only book in English that students have seen before reaching Manila."

A professor of English literature in the Imperial University of Tokyo, wanting to take his class into the study of the great classics of English speech, sent for Bibles, as "they cannot understand this literature unless they know the Bible."

When the Bible was translated into the despised Mandarin, the language of common speech in China, the same thing happened as when Latin and Greek were translated into English, German and other great tongues. It made literature accessible to all.

### In the Home

A MINISTER gave up his pastorate and entered into the work of going from door to door with the Scriptures. "In the anthracite coal regions," he writes, "I feel that the awakening among people from countries in which the Bible is not distributed is a splendid omen."

"There are groups of men and women in these valleys who are congregating in their homes to read the Bible and are forming missions and building churches. Many have been established in the past six or eight years."

"You don't remember me," said a workman to a colporteur from whom he had just bought a Bible. "Several months ago you gave me a penny Gospel, although I did not want it at the time. But, since we began reading the book we have joined the church, and our children go regularly to Sunday school."

Through a Bible, more than half destroyed by fire, a man and his wife were led to Christ. When clearing away the debris from the cellar, the man found the dilapidated fragment of Holy Scriptures in the charred remains of an old trunk.

He took it home and, after showing it to his wife, started to put it into the stove, but she stopped him. After supper she began to read such portions as were left. They were interested immediately, and not long after the man and his wife timidly entered the nearby mission, where they were won to Christ.

### In National Life

ABOUT ten years ago, when a telegraph line was being constructed in the interior of the Republic of Panama, a lineman gave a Bible to a native along the road. It remained an unknown book in that man's house for sev-

eral years. Two years ago some one told him that there was a group of people in Panama City who could explain to him the contents of that book. Traveling some eighty miles, he spent two weeks at the Sea Wall Methodist Mission at Panama City and took an intensive course of study under the mission's pastor. He then returned to tell others what he had learned. Recently, the superintendent of the mission received word to send him a minister and a school-teacher. Three preaching points have been opened up. This man has evangelized the country for many miles around his home.

A hundred and fifty years ago, there was the French Revolution and an outburst of rationalism. Immediately there arose, for the first time, the Bible Societies, which translated this volume into almost every language, whether written or unwritten, on the face of the earth; and momentous have been the results.

All recent Prime Ministers in Britain have been men of the Bible, and every recent American President has taken good care to be acquainted with the volume on which he swears his loyalty to the United States.

### In Missions

ONE of the strangest things about the widespread distribution of the Bible is the fact that it penetrates into Mecca, the most sacred city of the Mohammedan world. Christian missionaries are not allowed to enter her gates, but the gospel they preach is carried in by many people.

The Rev. Samuel M. Zwemer, D.D., has said: "The Bible Society has done three things in the great Mohammedan world. In the first place, it has created a new mental attitude. \* \* \*

"Not only has the Bible created a new mental attitude, but the Bible has created a new moral sense among Mohammedans. \* \* \*

"In the third place, throughout the whole Mohammedan world the circulation of the Scriptures, which is the work of the Bible Society, is producing a new spiritual hunger for the living Christ."

Dr. James L. Barton, of the American Board of Foreign Missions, has said: "Without the Bible in the vernacular, no permanent work could be anywhere established in any non-Christian land. The Bible Society is the inevitable coworker with every missionary society at home and abroad."

In India and the East, the Book is more read than any other book ever has been or ever will be; China alone has absorbed more than ninety million copies. Gandhi, the mystic, is a reader of the Bible. So was the former Chinese statesman Sun-Yat-Sen.



## Notes and Comments

THE cover design is an offspring of our November issue cover. That cover caught the eye and attention of the artist who prepared a design which, after a suggestion from the Editors, has resulted as here shown.

\* \* \*

The artist, Caleb G. Moore, saw the November RECORD in the Institute of the Brick Church of Rochester, N. Y.

• •

MANY reports are at hand indicating the wide and effective observance of Universal Bible Sunday, but must await another opportunity for presentation.

• •

THE cooperation of the officers of the International Society of Christian Endeavor, in the circulation of the leaflet reproduced in this issue, like the actions of the Advisory Council herein recorded, is a revelation of the importance these leaders of youth and the churches alike attach to the circulation and reading of the Bible.

\* \* \*

Such also is the attitude of other outstanding leaders. The officers of the Epworth League, North, circulated to the readers of individual societies thirty-five thousand copies of a special leaflet—"The World Round"; and seventeen thousand copies of a "Notebook" containing information about the work of the American Bible Society were sent to that number of Methodist Episcopal pastors. The World Service Calendar of the Methodist Episcopal Church twice a year sends out word about the work of the American Bible Society in its three hundred thousand copies.

\* \* \*

The Epworth League, South, circulated to its societies sixteen thousand of the leaflet "If the Work Should Stop"; four thousand of them being used in the Summer Assemblies of young people.

• •

THE Presbyterian Church, U. S. A., Handbook, the Presbyterian Church in the United States Calendar, and the Reformed Church in America Handbook, each contain a page or more devoted to the work of the American Bible Society as the agency of those churches for the circulation of the Bible.

• •

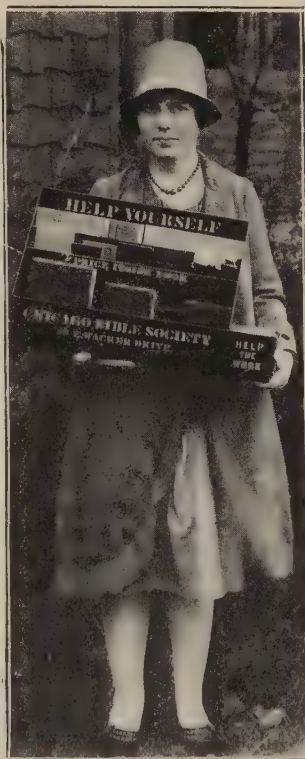
WE welcome to his new position of responsibility the Rev. Dr. William R. King, who has

taken up vigorously his duties as executive secretary of the Home Missions Council in New York City, after serving as a secretary of the Board of National Missions of the Presbyterian Church, U. S. A.

• •

THE accompanying picture practically explains its title. The idea and its usefulness are emphasized by Dr. McLaughlin, Secretary of the Northwestern Agency. An employee of the Chicago Bible Society devised the "machine."

"It is an effort to help meet the utter lack of colporteurs which funds and conditions make it impossible for us to have. I enclose a picture showing, in a poor way, the box. It works. One church put in a box last Sunday, and it was cleaned out at the morning service. The church has ordered a double supply for next Sunday. Just a cog in the machine to try to get the Scriptures into the hands of the people. I am thinking of putting some outside.



"THE SLOT MACHINE COLPORTEUR"

No copyright on the idea. Use it wherever you can."

It will be seen that there is a little box at the lower right into which coins can be placed for the volumes taken, the price of each volume being carefully marked on it.

• •

A PHONE message from the Rev. Dr. R. S. Inglis, pastor of the Third Presbyterian Church of Newark, New Jersey, recently brought an order for 12 dozen of the New Testament in 11 volumes, with carrying case, advertised on the back of the November RECORD at 30 cents. It developed that a few sets



from a previous order being on hand, Dr. Inglis had shown one from the pulpit and stated that they would make useful Christmas presents, and that the sets at hand would be available at the end of the service for any desiring them. Not only were these sets all purchased, but orders for ten more dozen were received; and hence the phone message.

AN inquiry from Philadelphia leads us to emphasize announcements previously made that a passage of Scripture is read daily, except Sundays, over the broadcasting station of WGBS, New York, at 1:30 o'clock on the Atlantic coast, and over the broadcasting station of KPO, San Francisco, at high noon, on the Pacific coast. The inquiry was on behalf of the blind, and suggests that any person acquainted with blind people who have radios which can pick up from either of these stations, inform them of these daily readings.

THOSE interested in the Jews will find much of information and inspiration in the first number of a new quarterly called "Jews and Christians." It is issued by the Hebrew Christian Publication Society under the editorship of B. A. M. Schapiro, its managing director, with office at the Bible House, New York. It is impracticable here even to quote the rich table of contents, which has such contributors as Dr. Daniel Russell, Dr. John Conning, P. Whitwell Wilson, and Rev. Kenneth Mackenzie. Dr. William I. Haven and Bishop A. S. Lloyd bear testimony to the value of the work of Mr. Schapiro, who himself has contributed an important article entitled "To My People." The Quarterly is 50 cents a copy.

THE following cable appeared in a New York paper recently:

LEEDS, ENGLAND.—Jerome R. McLaren set aside \$50,000 in his will to buy Bibles for guests of English hotels.

THE *National Lutheran Bulletin* carries the announcement:

A system of daily Bible readings for the use of members of the Luther League of America is in course of preparation by the Rev. Amos J. Traver, general secretary. The plan followed is to arrange a course of related daily readings which will emphasize Bible truths.

A COPY has recently reached us of the *San Francisco Examiner*, which carried across the top of its editorial page a verse from the Bible in fourteen point, and the name of the local minister who has selected that verse at its request. This is its regular practice.

THE *Lookout*, of Cincinnati, in its issue of December 11, 1927, publishes a list of daily Bible readings, which will cover the New Testament from January 1 to December 31, 1928.

A CONTRIBUTION of \$1 was received recently with the statement that it had been found among the papers of a Life Member of the Society, who had recently died in her 102d year; "we are sure she would be happy to send it to the Bible Society."

## Faith

By Maud Frazer Jackson

WHAT if I say,—  
 "The Bible is God's Holy Word,  
 Complete, inspired, without a flaw,"—  
 But let its 'pages stay  
 Unread from day to day,  
 And fail to learn therefrom God's law;  
 What if I go not there to seek  
 The truth of which I glibly speak,  
 For guidance on this earthly way,—  
 Does it matter what I say?

What if I say  
 That Jesus Christ is Lord divine;  
 Yet fellow-pilgrims can behold  
 Naught of the Master's love in me,  
 No grace of kindly sympathy?  
 If I am of the Shepherd's fold,  
 Then shall I know the Shepherd's voice  
 And gladly make his way my choice.  
 We are saved by faith, yet faith is one  
 With life, like daylight and the sun.  
 Unless they flower in our deeds,  
 Dead, empty husks are all the creeds.  
 To call Christ Lord but strive not to obey,  
 Belies the homage that with words I pay.  
 —From *The Churchman*.

IN an article on "Panama's Reaction upon the Missionary," by George F. Austin, in *The Baptist*, of Chicago, of August 13, 1927, we find this pleasant reference to the "house at the crossroads," as the Bible House in Cristobal is sometimes called:

Many missionaries transit the canal, coming from, or going to various republics, and stop over at the free missionary quarters of the American Bible Society in Cristobal. Many of them are "independent," having, perhaps, felt the great urge which is caught up by the romance of the tropics; and they go without wallet or script. They are mostly, and inevitably, financially hard-pressed, living frugal lives, unable to take care of themselves as they should; and on every one whom I have seen are the deadly marks of want and overwork. They build up little, if any, organized work that survives. It all shows the futility of the work without the cooperation and responsibility of mission boards. When denominational missionaries arrive in Cristobal, they also go to these rooms. The rooms are nicely furnished and were provided by some generous person through the American Bible Society. Were it not for this generosity, the hardships of missionaries in transit would be more than they are.



## Conferences in Important Centers

ONE of the problems arising from the adoption of the budget system in the various churches is the loss of touch with the different communities on the part of the agencies at work on the home and foreign fields. The advantages of being in the church program are infinitely greater than the loss; but there is a loss. In order to meet this situation, a year ago the Ways and Means Committee, at the suggestion of General Secretary Ryan, authorized the setting-up of Bible conferences in certain of the important cities of the country. This was really nothing new; for such Bible days have been held often in the history of the Society and, in the old days when there were hundreds of auxiliary societies all over the nation, their annual meetings were such occasions. Customs change, however, and this program was an attempt to do in a new way what had proved successful in the past. Others will be held.

### Washington, D. C.

Under Dr. Ryan's leadership the program was opened with a meeting in Washington, D. C., on April 24 and 25, 1927. Representative Secretaries and workers connected with the Bible Society spoke in the different churches on Sunday, April 24. On the evening of Monday a large company of many of the leading ministers and laymen of Washington gathered in the Chinese Room of the Hotel Mayflower, under the chairmanship of Colonel John T. Axton, chief of chaplains of the United States Army. The opening prayer was by Dr. Montgomery, chaplain of the House of Representatives, and the closing prayer by Dr. Muir, the greatly lamented recent chaplain of the Senate. Dr. Ryan made a very impressive address at this gathering. Everyone spoke of it as an auspicious gathering. A letter was read from President Coolidge by President Andrew Wilson of the Washington Bible Society.

### Chattanooga

On May 1st and 2d, a similar Bible day was held at Chattanooga, Tenn. On Sunday, addresses were made in a number of the churches. A local committee of arrangements had charge of affairs, and a dinner was enjoyed on Monday evening, May 2, in the First Presbyterian Church. The Rev. Dr. Homer C. Carpenter was toastmaster. President Coolidge's message was read, and addresses were made by Mr. Morgan of the Southwestern Agency, Mr. Porter of the South Atlantic Agency, and Dr. Marston of the Central Agency, on "The Bible in the Southern States." Dr. Ryan gave an address on "Mutual Opportunities and Obliga-

tions." The meeting fully met all anticipations.

### Wilmington

On May 8 and 9, a similar gathering was held at the Hotel Dupont Biltmore in Wilmington, Delaware. The Rev. Dr. Charles L. Candee, former pastor of the Westminster Presbyterian Church, presided. The Rev. James W. Colona, D.D., of the Wilmington Methodist Episcopal Conference, had the opening prayer, and the Rev. Frederic M. Kirkus, D.D., rector of Trinity Protestant Episcopal Church, had the closing prayer. Governor Robinson of Delaware and Mayor Forrest of Wilmington were present and were presented with Bibles by Dr. Hyatt, the Secretary of the National Capital Agency. Each of them made appreciative addresses. The company was a distinguished one.

### St. Louis

The success of this meeting led to another in St. Louis on the 15th and 16th of May at the Hotel Statler. On Sunday, addresses were made in the churches. On Monday in the morning the ministers' meetings received the representatives of the Society. At noon on Monday a large company gathered together for luncheon. Mr. William E. Guy acted as local chairman. The message by President Coolidge was read. Addresses were given by Dr. McLaughlin, of the Northwestern Agency, and Dr. Ragatz, of the Western Agency, and by Dr. Ryan. A Bible was presented to Mayor Miller, who received it most graciously.

### Philadelphia

The last of the series planned by Dr. Ryan was held some months after his decease. The Rev. Dr. Parkin, in charge of the Atlantic Agency, with headquarters in Philadelphia, carried out the plans as arranged for by Dr. Ryan. Services were held in the churches on Sunday. On Saturday evening, October 22, a large company of representative ministers and laymen of the city of Philadelphia gathered at the Betsy Ross Room in the Hotel Benjamin Franklin. The Rev. Edwin Heyl Delk, D.D., led in prayer. Three-minute addresses were made by eight or ten of the local churchmen, representing the different denominations. Addresses were made by Dr. Floyd W. Tompkins, Dr. J. Henry Harms, the new Associate Secretary, Dr. Eric M. North, and the General Secretary, Dr. William I. Haven. Mr. McAlpine, assisting in the work carried on by Dr. Ryan, was presented to the audience. Gospels according to St. Mark in Russian were distributed as souvenirs. It was an encouraging occasion.



## Gospel Reading in the New Year

THE turn of the year sees the beginning of another widespread united reading of some of the most precious parts of the Bible. Hundreds of thousands of church members will unite in reading a chapter each day in the Gospel of Matthew during January and in the Gospel of John during February. Orders for the one-cent editions of these Gospels are flocking into the Agencies of the Society.

Last year the circulation of the two books read—Luke and Acts—was respectively 400,000 and 500,000 above the average circulation for the period of the reading. It is anticipated that many more will be read this year, as the churches and the Society have made more widespread effort to inform all pastors.

With the literature for Bible Sunday, sent out early in November to over 77,000 pastors, was included a letter concerning this plan and an order blank. Since that time the committees on evangelism of several denominations and several church federations have sent commendatory letters with the Society's enclosures and often a copy of a Gospel to each minister in their constituency. The Disciples of Christ, with whose secretary for evangelism, Dr. Jesse M. Bader, the plan originated two years ago, have sent out nearly 8,000 such letters. Dr. George G. Mahy, of the department of evangelism of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A., has sent out as many to all their local churches. Similar measures have been taken by Dr. F. L. Fagley, of the Congregationalist Commission on Evangelism; by Bishop Wm. M. Bell, of the United Brethren; by Dr. Charles E. Schaeffer, of the Home Mission Board of the Reformed Church in the U. S.; and by Dr. R. A. Hutchinson, of the Board of Home Missions of the United Presbyterian Church. Dr. J. W. Perry, of the Board of Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, has written to each presiding elder of that church. Dr. George B. Dean, of the Board of Home Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church, has given the plan widespread indorsement, and several of the bishops of that church have sent letters to each pastor in their conferences. Other methods are being used among the Seventh-day Baptists and the Evangelical Church.

Several church federations have also circularized their constituency, among them the federations of Cleveland and Toledo, Ohio, of Baltimore, Md., of Washington, D. C., of Kansas City, Mo., of Buffalo, N. Y., of Atlanta, Ga., Duluth, Minn., and of Trenton, N. J. The Bible Societies of Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Maine and the Southwestern Agency

## BIBLE SOCIETY RECORD

EDITORS ..... *The Secretaries*

NEW YORK, JANUARY, 1928

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

INSTITUTED 1816

Bible House, Astor Place, New York

### DECEMBER MEETING OF THE BOARD

THE eighth stated meeting of the Board of Managers in its one hundred and twelfth year was held at the Bible House, Astor Place, New York, on Thursday, December 1, 1927, at 3:30 o'clock p. m., President E. Francis Hyde in the chair.

Devotional exercises were conducted by the Rev. Dr. M. G. G. Scherer.

The minutes of the seventh stated meeting of the Board of Managers were approved.

The minutes of the various standing committees were presented and approved.

The minutes of the Budget Committee were presented, together with recommended appropriations, which had the unanimous support of the Advisory Council.

The budget for 1928 was adopted, totaling \$1,345,426.

The actions of the Advisory Council were presented and their recommendations approved by the Board.

The Treasurer reported the following consignments to the Society's Foreign Agencies during the month of November, 1927: Brazil, 430 volumes, valued at \$627.03; Caribbean, 44 volumes, valued at \$27.49; Mexico, 60 volumes, valued at \$67.86; Philippines, transportation on volumes previously sent, \$115.72; West Indies, 2,185 volumes, valued at \$1,097.77; total volumes, 2,719; total value, \$1,935.87.

The issues from the Bible House during the month of November were 747,411 volumes.

of the American Bible Society are informing all the pastors in their territory. Similar information is also being sent out in Delaware.

Readers of the RECORD will no doubt be joining in the united reading themselves, and may encourage their own churches to suggest it to every member. It will be noted that the Gospel of Matthew contains as many chapters as there are days in January, and that the Gospel of John affords a chapter each day from the first of February to the beginning of Lent. Surely such a reading should deepen in the lives of thousands the convictions that make life true and noble and more and more Christ-like.



# CASH RECEIPTS IN OCTOBER, 1927

## LEGACIES

Harling, Carl Edward, late of Brooklyn, N. Y.....	\$ 100 00
McKinney, John, late of Salem, N. Y.....	200 00
Trumbull, George B., late of Ithaca, N. Y.....	85 50
	<u>\$385 50</u>

## HOME AGENCIES

Atlantic .....	\$2,755 41
Central .....	2,831 29
Colored People of U. S. A. ....	1,911 32
Eastern .....	2,567 36
National Capital .....	529 88
Northwestern .....	3,300 55
Pacific .....	2,019 09
South Atlantic .....	2,537 89
Southwestern .....	2,238 94
Western .....	1,091 43
	<u>\$21,783 16</u>

Auxiliary Societies on Do- nation Account .....	\$ 668 64
Auxiliary Societies on Book Account .....	2,859 65
Home Agencies .....	21,783 16
Returns from Scriptures Donated .....	31 54
	<u>\$62,760 49</u>

## GIFTS SUBJECT TO LIFE INTEREST

Amount received during the month .....	\$37,032 00
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## AUXILIARY SOCIETIES

	Received on Donation Book Account	Book Account
Alabama .....	\$ 40 50	
Buffalo City and Erie Co., N. Y.....	600 00	
Cedarville, Ohio.....	\$150 00	
Charleston, S. C.....	95 85	
Freedom Welsh, N. Y. ....	47 14	
Massachusetts .....	1,000 00	
New York .....	59 82	
Orange Co., N. Y....	350 00	
Rocky Creek, S. C. ....	50 00	
St. Louis, Mo.....	1,011 93	
Salem Bible Assn., N. C. ....	17 74	
Shelby Co., Ala.....	13 00	
Union Bible Society Fairfield and Richland Co., S.C. ....	71 50	
	<u>\$2,859 65</u>	
On Donation Ac- count .....	668 64	
	<u>\$3,528 29</u>	

## From Home Agencies and Included in Home Agencies Receipts

Donations from Auxiliary Societies:	
Pennsylvania .....	\$294 00
Gettysburg Women's, Pa. ....	50 00
Gifts from Churches.....	581 18
Gifts from Individuals.....	283 95

## RETURNS FROM SCRIPTURES DONATED

Board of National Missions Presbyterian Church.....	\$ 26 69
Mission and Sunday School, Liberia, Africa .....	4 85
	<u>\$ 31 54</u>

## RECAPITULATION

Legacies .....	\$ 385 50
Gifts Subject to Life In- terest .....	37,032 00

## MISCELLANEOUS

Annuity Account Invested \$	155 00
Annuity Department ....	1,142 56
Bible House Rentals.....	11,669 99
Bible Society Record.....	7 25
Foreign Agencies .....	1,388 00
Funds Received for Transmission .....	247 20
General Salaries and Ex- penses .....	7 20
Gifts for Distribution to the Blind from Individ- uals .....	267 87
Gifts from Churches.....	16,091 46
Gifts from Individuals....	15,141 37
Income from Available Investments .....	907 14
Income from Legacies and Gifts, Trust Funds Manufacturing Credits ..	1,407 89
Mississippi Flood Fund..	79 18
Mississippi Flood Fund..	1,004 85
Scriptures to the Blind...	116 61
The Trade .....	411 84
	<u>\$50,045 41</u>

Total Cash Receipts....\$112,805 90

# CASH STATEMENT FOR OCTOBER, 1927

## GENERAL CASH STATEMENT

### RECEIPTS

Balance from September, 1927.....	\$26,975 57
Gifts from Auxiliaries.....	668 64
Auxiliaries .....	2,859 65
Trade .....	411 84
Scriptures to the Blind.....	116 61
Manufacturing Credits .....	79 18
Annuity Account .....	37,032 00
Bible House Rentals.....	11,669 99
Gifts for Distribution to Blind.....	267 87
Gifts from Churches.....	16,091 46
Gifts from Individuals.....	15,141 37
Bible Society Record.....	7 25
Funds received for Transmission.....	247 20
Annuity Account Invested.....	155 00
Home Agencies .....	21,783 16
Foreign Agencies .....	1,388 00
General Salaries and Expenses.....	7 20
Income from Legacies and Gifts—Trust Funds	1,407 89
Annuity Department .....	1,142 56
Incomes from Available Investment.....	907 14
Legacies .....	385 50
Returns from Scriptures Donated.....	31 54
Mississippi Flood Donations.....	1,004 85

\$139,781 47

### DISBURSEMENTS

Bills of Exchange.....	\$21,902 62
General Salaries and Expenses.....	4,237 96
Treasurer's Office—Salaries and Expenses..	1,816 12
Bible House Expenses.....	4,023 67
Appeals .....	2,236 66
Diffusion of Information.....	1,629 85
Annuity Department.....	18,360 84
Bible Society Record.....	175 15
Real Estate .....	2,782 42
Cash reserved for Publication Department..	33,405 55
Home Agencies .....	12,964 15
Foreign Agencies .....	6,012 96
Funds received for Transmission.....	204 95
United States Trust Co.—Available Invest- ments .....	1,850 62
United States Trust Co.—Trust Funds.....	11,003 00
Scriptures to the Blind.....	2 55
Miscellaneous Home .....	206 23
Miscellaneous Foreign .....	64 84
Church Budget Costs.....	93 34
Library .....	95 57
Broadcasting .....	40 00
Income from Legacies and Gifts—Trust Funds	125 00
Gifts from Churches.....	13 34
Special Annuity—Income and Expense.....	180 00
Translation and Revision.....	196 15
Balance to November, 1927.....	16,157 93

\$139,781 47

## PUBLICATION DEPARTMENT CASH STATEMENT

Balance from September, 1927.....	\$11,846 88	Publication Department .....	\$30,784 83
Transferred from General Cash.....	33,405 55	Balance to November, 1927.....	14,467 60
	<u>\$45,252 43</u>		<u>\$45,252 43</u>

Total Cash Balance.....\$30,625 53



# The Test of Prosperity

PRESIDENT COOLIDGE has declared that prosperity, rather than calamity, is the test of a nation.

If this be true—and who will deny it?—this nation and millions of its citizens are being tested as never before; for their resources are almost unbelievably great, wages are the highest ever known in any nation, and there are confident prophecies by leaders of industry that 1928 will be a year of continued material success.

Perhaps you are reviewing *your* past twelve months and shaping your plans for the new year. You are anxious to avoid the failure of those who have eyes only for the "things which are seen."

1927 has treated you well; so well, it may be, that you are saying to yourself: "If only I didn't need the income from that thousand dollars (or that hundred, as the case may be), I'd give it to the American Bible Society for its work of world-wide distribution of the Book."

But your requirement of an income need not keep you from realizing your desire to further the Bible Cause. For we will be happy to see that you get the

income—not only for 1928, but as long as you live—and to guarantee it, too, if you will see that we have the sum that earns that income. Then, when you no longer require its use, this sum will, in our hands, go on working for you throughout the world.

This is all accomplished through our Annuity Plan. Hundreds of friends of the Bible Cause were added to our splendid group of annuitants last year. We invite you to join them in 1928.

As little as \$100.00 opens the door into this fine fellowship and brings you a regular income for life, the rate depending on your age, and running as high as 9%.



Money invested in the Bible Cause helps to send out groups of colporteurs such as these into Bibleless districts. This picture shows colporteurs and office force of the American Bible Society in Bangkok, Siam.

*If you will drop us a card requesting Booklet 62T, we will send full information.*

**American Bible Society**

Instituted 1816

Bible House, Astor Place  
New York City